

### **Abstract**

The invention presents an information processing apparatus of simple structure capable of distinguishing the state of use, automatically changing over the display direction of the display screen, and excellent in shock durability, protection from water drop and dust, and power saving property. The information processing apparatus comprises a main body having a first contact-free sensor means, a display unit having a display panel and a second contact-free sensor means, a hinge having axes of rotation for coupling the main body and the display unit, and a display processor for rotating the display of the display panel. At least either the first contact-free sensor means or the second contact-free sensor means sends a first signal to the display processor when the first contact-free sensor means and the second contact-free sensor means are placed face to face, and the display processor rotates the display of the display panel according to the first signal.